



OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

RELEASED TO THE PDR

September 12, 1996

date

initials

REVISED

MEMORANDUM TO: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: *John C. Hoyle*
John C. Hoyle, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-96-147 - PLANNING
FOR PURSUING REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT IN THE
AREA OF EXEMPTIONS GRANTED TO REGULATIONS

This is to advise you that the Commission has not objected to the staff proceeding to identify and prioritize rulemaking actions to reduce the need for exemptions.

The staff should address the following comments and present their findings, recommendations, and plans in a followup Commission paper.

1. The staff should evaluate the justifying elements for exemptions as stated in 10 CFR 50.12 for adequacy, determine whether they are adequately encompassing for Part 50 licensees, and identify improvements or modifications, if needed. The staff should review other Parts of the regulations and identify those which contain provisions for exemptions but do not have specific attributes or elements that are required to be addressed by the requestor of the exemption, and determine the need for those regulations to include such specific attributes or elements. Where changes to regulations are deemed to be warranted, a corresponding rulemaking plan should be developed.
2. The staff should evaluate its internal process with respect to the evaluation of exemption ~~results~~ requests. The staff should evaluate whether its internal procedures, general staff training, and objective criteria used to ensure that the review of exemption requests are conducted in a reasonably consistent manner, and that the specific elements of 10 CFR 50.12 (including 50.12 concepts as they are applied

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM AND SECY-96-147 WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY
AVAILABLE 5 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS SRM.

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to other Parts of the regulation that are less specific) are considered in a consistent manner, are adequate, and identify changes where appropriate.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 10/25/96)

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Dicus
OGC
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)